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EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs
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20a

SPECIAL MEETING
of the
WATCH COMMITTEE

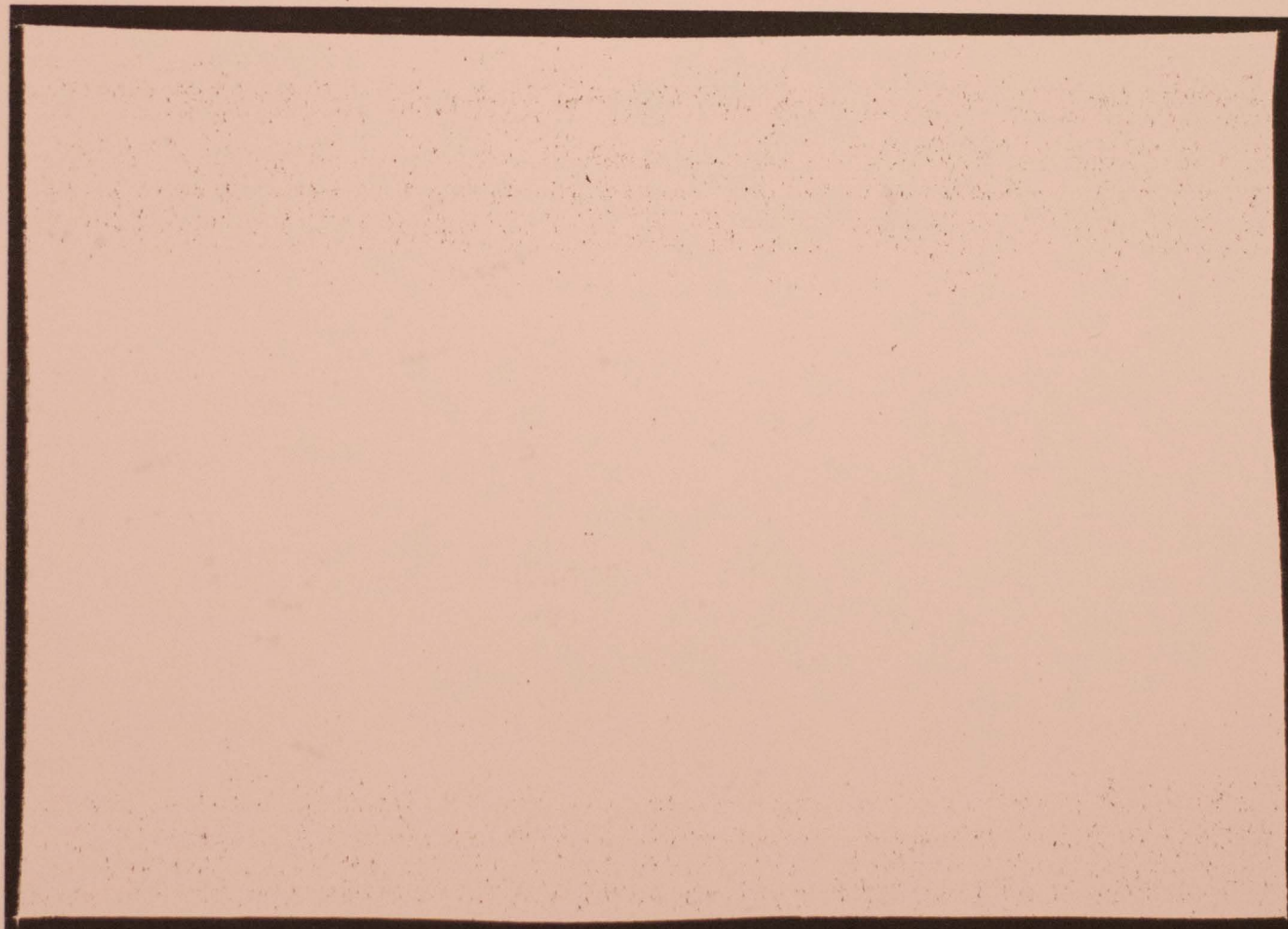
No. 952A

21 November 1968

The Watch Committee met at 2000 hours on 21 November to consider reports bearing on the possibility of an imminent Soviet military move against Rumania.

1. We do not have evidence of any major deployments of Soviet or other Warsaw Pact forces which might be indicative of an imminent invasion of Rumania, but it must be noted that extensive deployments could have occurred without having been detected.

2. Moreover, we have observed a number of unusual developments which give cause for concern. These are:



3. The following possibilities were considered as explanations for the activity:

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6
NLJ/RAC 01-154
By abm, NARA, Date 1-11-02

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- Invasion of Rumania. We find this unlikely. Nevertheless, it remains possible since the military deployments necessary for its implementation could be carried out without our observation.

- A Warsaw Pact exercise with Rumanian participation. We consider this unlikely since the weight of the evidence indicates no preparation by Rumania for such an exercise.

- Military exercises in areas adjacent to Rumania. We consider this the most likely possibility. The purpose of this activity might be to bring pressure on the Rumanians to make them more amenable to the scheduling of a major joint exercise in Rumania in the near future and possibly to the establishment of a long-term Soviet military presence there.

4. Although drastic Soviet action against Rumania is considered unlikely at this moment, we believe that the question of a Warsaw Pact exercise in Rumania will remain a cause of friction in Soviet-Rumanian relations.

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